

## RECREATION ISSUES AND INTERESTS

### Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

Master list of issues raised at Public, Plenary, and Work Group meetings, and received via e-mail, letter, or fax (revision date contained in footer):

#### Recreation Interests

1. Existing recreational facilities are not adequate to meet demand
2. Upgrade all facilities and develop more areas for recreation
3. Look at future and reliable funding sources for recreational development
4. There is an interest in integrating recreation opportunities provided by the reservoir with those that could occur on adjacent national forest system lands. Uses need to be complimentary with no unmitigated impact on heritage resources and little if any impact on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat or vegetative productivity. Opportunities could include boat in camping sites, trails from the reservoir to points of scenic or other interest and improvement of existing road access to the reservoir. (Plumas National Forest)
5. Improve Loafer Creek facilities
6. Finish Feather River Enhancement Project
7. Increase camping facilities
8. At Lime Saddle Memorial Park, build it out and extend it to capacity to which it was originally designed. Up to 250 campsites and boat ramp, swimming beach.
9. Develop campground at the Afterbay
10. Develop smaller, primitive style campgrounds (tent) particularly around Enterprise boat ramp
11. Encourage use of the Forebay RV parking facilities
12. Convert floating campsites for winter use
13. The access road from Berry Creek needs improvement and campground facilities are needed lakeside.
14. Increase parking facilities
15. Provide more parking at Bidwell Canyon
16. Open spillway road to Potters Ravine for recreation development.
17. Widen Hwy 162 to Miners Ranch Road
18. Develop monorail system to Butte County
19. Upgrade roads to facilities
20. Improve access from the north
21. Develop an alternative route to and from Lake Oroville area. From east to west, Miners Ranch Road, converging with Foothill Boulevard, and out Ophir Road to Hwy 70.
22. Widen Hwy 162 as originally planned and encourage all levels of government to widen Hwy 70 to Oroville.
23. Build bridge from Nelson Ave Sports Complex to North Forebay and supply gas to site.
24. If there is going to be paving, consider Burma Road (more cost effective with no conflict of use)
25. Immediate access by public vehicles at Lakeland Boulevard to the old railroad grade area of the diversion pool with future consideration of improvements in that same area.
26. Increase marinas
27. Establish and locate area for bass tournaments on the lake and include stands, parking, water, electricity, vendors, boats, etc.
28. Develop facilities (including grandstands, toilets, and campgrounds) at the Forebay/Afterbay to support competitive powerboat events
29. Include a marina and launching of boats along with many recreational activities at the Afterbay, with the entrance to the facilities off Hwy 99
30. Improve or extend roads at Vinton Gulch and Nelson Bar Road (both east and west) to the 800-foot level and increase parking and turn around for car-top launch only. At Nelson Bar east, create a parking area for local residents and install a walking path on the island to the 800-foot level. (LOFEC)
31. Re-establish a boat launch for river usage by powerboats and canoes with an improved launch ramp on the west side of the River in the Wildlife area. (LOFEC)
32. Re-establish and open the road to and from the Cherokee Road area to the Bloomer boat-in area and improve the access parking area at Dark Canyon. (LOFEC)
33. Improve Ponderosa Way Trail to the Las Plumas Power House and consider adding camping and launch ramp to the east side of the North Fork Feather River. (LOFEC)

34. Develop a management structure and funding for aquatic center programs at the north Forebay to bring boating safety and handling to the public
35. Expand use of facilities for boating education and water boat training (like Butte Sailing Club offers)
36. Tournament water skiing location
37. Open forks of lake for boating activity by changing regulations and gating the log booms for access
38. Loss of whitewater recreation opportunities and potential mitigation for loss (whitewater park)
39. Provide houseboat anchor sites
40. Numerous proposals are being made within the Recreational and Socioeconomic Work Group to substantially increase the use of the Afterbay for boating, camping, and other activities. It is important that the environmental impacts of each of these proposals be carefully assessed so that waterfowl and other wildlife on the Afterbay are not adversely affected. (California Waterfowl Association)
41. Investigate potential for shooting carp activity at Oroville
42. Long-term cold and warm water fisheries management plan
43. Clean out the silt of all ponds and remove excess brush around ponds with clear paths to each and plant some warm water fish to each. One Mile Pond, plant with rainbows and brook trout and increase camping sites. (LOFEC)
44. Consider changes in flow rates on recreational fishing
45. More emphasis on steelhead and less on salmon
46. Encourage continuation of bass rearing program (as plants)
47. Establish new lake records for fishing and establish a record keeper (group or business) (LOFEC)
48. Establish bank-fishing sites along sloping banks around all campground areas – Parrish Cove, Foreman Creek, Bloomer Boat-in, Goat Ranch Boat-in, Loafer Creek. (LOFEC)
49. Re-survey rivers and Oroville Lake for depth and mark dangerous areas with buoys. Publish new depth charts and make available to the public. (LOFEC)
50. Lake Oroville releases made for power generation may cause dramatic fluctuations in the lake level. What are the potential impacts of fluctuation zone and surface elevation change on recreation opportunities and on fish and wildlife habitat? (SWRCB)
51. Lake levels drop too low in the summer for boaters
52. Has DWR completed or met all its obligations for recreation mitigation (wildlife habitat and fishing) under the existing FERC license? (CDFG)
53. Create swimming facility (year-round) at Loafer Creek Recreation Area or other appropriate place to replace swimming lost when Bidwell Bar was inundated.
54. Water temperature below dam is too cold for swimming
55. North Forebay development and visibility of swimming opportunities – sand beach surround
56. Site improvements to existing flying site for model airplanes
57. Improve the Off Hwy Vehicle Recreation Area (SVRA) at the Oroville complex. This would include and not be limited to 4x4 areas for training, safety, but also moto-cross type tracks also.
58. Larkin Road Shooting Range owned and maintained by the state off Larkin Road south of the Oroville Airport. Enhance parking area, accessibility and drainage.
59. Open the Feather River to gold dredging from Hwy 70 bridge to and through the Wildlife area. Limit to 4" dredge, high banking, sluicing, and panning allowed and establish a building for concession and educational displays. Open from Memorial Day to Labor Day – establish a gold marketer to buy and sell gold and related items to gold recovery in the Feather River. Attraction would be closed during salmon and steelhead runs. (LOFEC)
60. Build an information center at the main entrance off Larkin Road for the Wildlife Area. (LOFEC)
61. Create a mining display visible from Hwy (dredge equipment, etc.)
62. Consider acquiring the Campbell Hills property to continue existing uses such as hang-gliding, kite flying, paragliding, and radio-controlled plane flying at area bordering Thermalito Forebay Recreation Area.
63. What is the recreational value of hunting and fishing on project lands and how can they be enhanced? (DPR)
64. Increase hiking trails
65. Build pedestrian bridge adjacent to Hwy. 70 bridge. (Possibly in conjunction with train bridge – multipurpose)
66. Develop more bike trails that are separate from hiking and equestrian trails
67. Build a trail starting at the Feather River Hatchery and continuing down river to access the proposed Hwy 70-bike/pedestrian crossing. Create picnic and river access areas on this stretch of the Feather River.
68. Feather River trails – as proposed by the Bike Pathway Project, links of this access will be created under the Upper Thermalito Bridge and between the Diversion Dam and the old Feather River Railroad.
69. Create comprehensive, integrated trail links around the Project.

70. Move the security fence off the trail access at the Feather River Hatchery.
71. Finish building the CA riding and hiking trail from Oroville Trail to Pacific Crest Trail.
72. Develop an endurance trail around the lake perhaps connecting to Pacific Crest Trail and preserve existing hiking and equestrian trail (in particular, preserve the Dan Beebe Trail as a historical equestrian and hiking trail)
73. Open diversion dam as trail linkage. Create trail linkage from diversion dam to old railroad grade at the railroad trestle. Open west side of the river from the fish barrier dam to Burma Road as recreation area. Move fence back from riverbank at fish hatchery and develop trail from Table Mountain Bridge past the Hwy 70 bridge on north side of river.
74. Provide overnight equestrian parking and camping facilities at existing facilities. Improve Lakeland Equestrian Parking Area as follows: expand parking area portable toilets, picnic tables, metal hitching posts, potable water, native trees planted for shade. Consider providing facilities for overnight camping, and maintain all areas as pavement free.
75. Install directional/rule signs for trails at parking areas and along trails, provide ranger enforcement of the rules.
76. Provide multi-use trails
77. Evaluate unpaved status of RR grade multi-use trail
78. Improve Saddle Dam Equestrian Parking area by adding watering trough, picnic tables, metal hitching posts and planting native trees for shade on the perimeter, expand parking area for major events. Maintain all areas as pavement free. This should apply to the Visitor Center Staging Area as well.
79. Replace water trough that was removed from below the OWID ditch to a location nearby, as well as obtaining equestrian input as to watering locations on all present and future trails.
80. Add picnic tables and hitching posts at Long Bar Pond, Glen Pond Meadows, and in an open area near the OWID ditch east of the Oroville Dam Highway crossing as well as at all staging areas.
81. Add picnic tables and benches across from and at the Oroville Dam Spillway along the railroad grade and old construction road, multi-use sections of trail.
82. Evaluate potential for equestrian amphitheater/rodeo arena/multi-use/boarding facility at Larkin area, Thompson's Flat or a suitable alternative site with accessibility to existing Oroville equestrian trails
83. Temporarily rough clear/grade some sections of the trail used for the annual LOVER equestrian event, including an alternate route, parallel to the bike route, up the south side of the dam for horses to use during LOVER ride.
84. Continue Lakeshore habitat improvement.
85. Upgrade portable restrooms to permanent ones at various locations
86. Water lines at the day use area along the river between the Fish Barrier Dam and the Diversion Dam need to be installed to irrigate plantings. Restrooms and day use area improvements are also needed. Clean up old 'City' park adjacent to the Fish Barrier Dam, just north of the Fish Hatchery. Provide picnic areas and restroom facilities.
87. Need to establish a debris collection program on regular schedule
88. Remove old Rail Road trestle and other debris from river.
89. Clean up shoreline, particularly adjacent to camping and public access areas. Use county prisoner-release programs if necessary, to maintain clean shorelines.
90. Remove concrete and construction debris in Feather River including below the Fish Barrier dam, below the Table Mountain Bridge, below the Hwy 70 bridge.
91. Dump areas used by DWR need to be removed.
92. Evaluate fuel loading in areas within the Project area, including land along the Feather River below Oroville Dam through the Long Bar area and land near the Diversion Dam.
93. Install warning system for water releases.
94. Provide an emergency boat for CDF
95. Evaluate existing lake security and need for increased personnel
96. Create, enhance and preserve Craig Access Park
97. Restore and improve recreation resource along the river corridor from the dam, downstream to the wildlife area
98. Camouflage the powerline towers
99. Various recreational and public use facilities were designated as mitigation measures to minimize impacts resulting from the original Oroville Project construction. The Licensee should provide a complete inventory of recreational mitigation obligations required by Articles of the existing FERC License, and should clearly disclose the current status of compliance with those measures. (SWRCB)
100. There is an interest in reviewing the arrangement to defer recreation management to the California Department of parks and Recreation for the purpose of determining whether to continue, modify or

terminate this agreement. The arrangement if continued needs to be formally documented and updated to reflect current management direction. (Plumas National Forest)

101. Replace landscaping at the Feather River Fish Hatchery and adjacent river areas.

102. Create work team to remove invasive, non-native plants (List A and B) from State Water Project and DWR areas.

103. Re-seed face of Oroville Dam and perimeter of reservoir exposed during drawdown.

#### **SOCIOECONOMICS ISSUES AND INTERESTS**

104. Look at what happens to money developed from power generation and potential to put into community. Have an economist evaluate the implications of promises versus delivery. Look at history to understand the perspectives of the community over the last 30 years.

105. Develop way to bring power and water directly from the project to the City of Oroville to stimulate economic development.